



**EXAMINATION OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE'S SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND
MATHEMATICS(STEM) WORKFORCE NEEDS IN THE FUTURE AND ITS STRATEGY TO MEET THOSE**

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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Final Report**

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Progress Report

FINAL

Grant Number: FA9550-08-1-0253

Project title: Examination of the U.S. Air Force Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Workforce Needs

Award Total: \$671,814

Period of Performance: 5/1/2008 through 4/30/2010

Deliveries made during report period: Final report delivered.

Summary of progress: The NRC project office received a study grant and an activated cost center on May 27, 2008 to conduct a study to: assess the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) capabilities that the U.S. Air Force needs to meet the goals, objectives, and priorities in its strategic plan; assess whether the current Air Force's STEM workforce and strategy will meet those capability needs; identify and evaluate STEM workforce and strategy options to meet capability needs, including both resource-unconstrained and -constrained options. Address STEM resource employment options, including mixes of Air Force military and civilian STEM workforces, federally funded research and development centers, technical support contractors, system prime contractors, and academia; address STEM capability needs, workforce, and options in terms of existing Air Force functional management areas; identify and evaluate options for the organization and management of the Air Force's STEM workforce to best balance and satisfy the needs of all functional areas and the Air Force as a whole, including any changes to the STEM workforce in the functional areas; and recommend strategies that the Air Force should pursue to meet its STEM capability needs in the future.

To meet the study requirements, five committee meetings were held: August 26-27, 2008, September 30 – October 1, 2008, October 29-30, 2008, December 3-4, 2008, and January 13-15, 2009. Additional funding and extension of time were needed for completion of answering extensive peer review comments. The Summary was delivered to the sponsor June 4, 2010; prepublication of the report was delivered to sponsor August 27, 2010; and the final report was delivered to the sponsor September 29, 2010.

According to the Air Force, all objectives as noted above were met in the final report, were very helpful recommendations and were integrated into the STEM strategies.